demanding security amount from the people at the time of registration for a telephone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the deposit money has been increased recently and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Nigam is not giving any interest on the deposited amount;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Nigam is asking for the rental charges in advance instead of adjusting the same from the deposited money; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Telephone Bills

855. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMINICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. are charging a sum of Rs. 10/- for registered notices which in fact in many cases are not received by the subscribers;

(b) if so, the reasons for charging this sum and the steps taken to refund this amount to persons who complain of not having received any registered notices;

(c) whether there are ample number of cases where the subscribers do not received the telephone bills and the arrear is shown in the subsequent bills but not added in the amount to be paid for that month;

(d) if so, the reasons for not adding that amount in the amount of the next bill and the s eps taken to do so henceforth;

(e) whether the Nigam is not sending duplicate bills to the subscribers who have requested for the same but continue to threaten him with disconnections;

(f) if so, the reasons for not sending duplicate bills to such subscribers; and

(g) the number of such letters received in the South Area-I of MTNL in each of he last six months and the action taken on each of such letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) MTNL is charging Rs. 10/- per registered reminder notice in all cases where registered notices are mailed to the subscriber, This amount is charged to meet the cost incurred in issue of the Registered Notice Charges levied wrongly, on being noticed, are reduced from the billed amount. If the bill has already been paid, the amount is adjusted in the subsequent bill.

(c) There are some cases reported of non receipt of bills, in all cases where an earlier bill remains unpaid the outstanding amount is reflected as arrears in the subsequent bill to serve as a reminder to the subscriber.

(d) It is not proposed to change the existing procedure as the accouting is being done with reference to the amount of each bill issued and not with reference to the total amount outstanding. It also takes care of late payments, which could not be accounted for before the issue of the next bill.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) During the last six months 23 letters were received in the Sout

Area-I of MTNL Delhi, for issue of duplicate bills. The duplicate bills were sent to all.

Fax Machine at Berhampore telegraph office

856. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fac that the FAX machine at Berhampore Telegraph Office has been lying defunct for the last three months causing untold inconven ences o the general subscribers, reporters of news papers and other organisations willing to get the service; and

(b) if so, what steps are going to be taken to repair and/or replace the machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS) (SHRI SUKH RAM):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The FAX machine has been repaired on 28-11-94 and brought to service since them it is working perfectly O. K.

STD Facilities at Murshidabad in West Bengal

857. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the M nister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Electronic Exchanges for offering STD facilities are ready at Islampore, Jalangi, Dhulian, Aurangabad, Jiagunj and Raghunathgunj in the district of Murshidabad in West Bengal;

(b) if so, why unneessary delay is being made to pro-vide connections for such facilities to the subscribers; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):(a) Electronic Exchanges are already available at all these stations except at Jalangi.

(b) and (c) An Electronic Exchange is proposed to be installed at Jalangi during this year (1994-95).

All the above six exchanges are proposed to be linked to the S.T.D. network by March, 95 subject to the availability of resources.

Telephone exchanges in Haryana

858. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of telephone exchanges in Haryana and how many of these are electronic and since when;

(b) by when Government propose to completely convert all telephone exchanges of Haryana from conventional to electronic exchange system with details thereof;

(c) what is the total number of villages (district-wise) covered by Telephone facilities in Haryana and by when Government propose to cover the remaining villages;

(d) what are the total number of telephone connections both in rura l and urban areas in Haryana; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred for provision of these facilities in Haryana ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):(a) Total number of exchanges in Haryana is 616, out of which 598 are electronic. The other details are given in the statement-I (*See* below)